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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 CIAF-00 DODE-00 PM-06 H-02 INR-06 L-03 NSAE-02
NSC-10 P-03 ISC-01 PRS-01 SS-14 USIA-12 NIC-01 UPW-01
PSR-01 /076 W

01236Z OCT 71
EMBASSY SAIGON
STATE WASHDC 0635
EMBASSY BANGKOK
CINCPAC
AMCONSUL DANANG
USDEL FRANCE
AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

THREE KY-SPONSORED NATIONAL MEETING OCTOBER 1 AND ABORTED
IN QUANG PRESS CONFERENCE

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1. SUMMARY. THE KY-SPONSORED "NATIONAL MEETING" WAS HELD
MORNING OCT 1 UNDER TIGHT POLICE CORDONS THAT KEPT DOWN BOTH
ATTENDANCE AND VIOLENCE. THE PEOPLE'S COORDINATING COMMITTEE
AGAINST DICTATORSHIP PASSED RESOLUTIONS AGAINST THE UNCONTESTED
ELECTIONS AND KY SPOKE DENOUNCING THIEU. A THREATENED MARCH
DID NOT PAN OUT. IN THE AFTERNOON POLICE PREVENTED A PRESS
CONFERENCE AT AN QUANG AND GOT INTO A SCRAP WITH STUDENTS WHICH
RESULTED IN HEAVY USE OF TEAR GAS AT THE PAGODA. END SUMMARY.

2. THE KY-SPONSORED PEOPLE'S COORDINATING COMMITTEE AGAINST
DICTATORSHIP HELD ITS "NATIONAL MEETING" AT THE GVN GUEST HOUSE
MORNING OCT 1. THE SURROUNDING AREA WAS TIGHTLY CORDONED
OFF BY COMBAT POLICE. OUT OF 2000 PURPORTEDLY INVITED ROUGHLY
250 ATTENDED, ALTHOUGH MANY MORE MIGHT HAVE ATTENDED IF POLICE

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR	
REVIEWED BY <u>Dean Lyuben</u>	DATE <u>1/20/82</u>
RDS ☐ or XDS ☐ EXT. DATE	REASON(S) _____
TS AUTH. _____	ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS ☐
DECLASSIFIED ☒ RELEASABLE ☒	RELEASE DENIED ☐
PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS _____	



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HAD LET THEM IN. THE PARTICIPANTS INCLUDED THE VENERABLES PHAP TRI AND KIM SANG AND MOST OF THE 43 ORIGINAL PARTICIPANTS IN THE FOUNDING OF THE COMMITTEE. THE MEETING ADOPTED FOUR RESOLUTIONS CALLING ON THIEU TO RECOGNIZE THE DANGERS OF DICTATORSHIP AND GIVE UP HOLDING THE ELECTION, AND CALLING RESPECTIVELY ON THE SUPREME COURT, THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY, AND THE ARMED FORCES TO TAKE ACTION OPPOSING THE UNCONTESTED ELECTION.

3. VICE PRESIDENT KY MADE A LATE APPEARANCE WITH A LARGE NUMBER OF BODYGUARDS. HE INVEIGHED AGAINST THIEU, ASKING THE GOV. TO BOYCOTT THE ELECTION AND GIVE ITS SUPPORT TO HIS EFFORTS. REPORTEDLY HE ALSO CALLED UPON THE ARMY AND PEOPLE TO RISE UP AND OVERTHROW THE "PRESENT DICTATORIAL GOVERNMENT". ALTHOUGH THERE WAS ONE MINOR FRACAS BETWEEN A FEW PRO-ADMINISTRATION AND PRO-KY VETERANS, THE RUMORED MARCH DOWNTOWN TO THE PALACE AND NATIONAL ASSEMBLY DID NOT TAKE PLACE, (POSSIBLY BECAUSE THE BODY OF VERY NON-MILITANT LOOKING PARTICIPANTS DID NOT WANT TO CHALLENGE THE CLEARLY WELL-PREPARED AND DETERMINED COMBAT POLICE).

4. COMMENT: WHAT WAS TO BE THE HIGHLIGHT OF THE PRE-ELECTORAL DEMONSTRATIONS APPEARS NOT TO HAVE BEEN NOTABLY SUCCESSFUL AS A CATALYST FOR PUBLIC OPINION OR AS A SOURCE OF EXPLOITABLE INCIDENTS. EMBASSY CONTACTS

HAVE INDICATED THAT KY PLANS TO CONTINUE THE PROTEST DEMONSTRATIONS AFTER THE ELECTION.

5. THE AN QUANG VIEN HOA DAO HAD ANNOUNCED SEPT 30 THAT IT WOULD SPONSOR A PRESS CONFERENCE THE AFTERNOON OCT 1 TO GIVE SENDOFF TO THE NEW "PEOPLE'S STRUGGLE COMMITTEE FOR PEACE AND DEMOCRACY"--IN EFFECT A COMPETITOR IN OPPOSITION RANKS TO KY'S ANTI-DICTATORSHIP COMMITTEE. THIS AFTERNOON THE POLICE BLOCKED OFF THE ENTRANCE TO THE MAIN AN QUANG PAGODA, DENYING ENTRY TO PARTICIPANTS SUCH AS SENATORS VU VAN MAU AND TRAN QUANG THUAN, THICH PHAP TRI AND OTHER BONZES, AND TO THE INVITED REPORTERS, THUS PREVENTING THE PRESS CONFERENCE. AS THIS WAS HAPPENING STUDENTS BEGAN DEMONSTRATING, TOSSING SOME FIREBOMBS. THE POLICE RESPONDED WITH REPORTEDLY HEAVY

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USE OF TEAR GAS, INCLUDING SOME FIRED INTO THE PAGODA GROUNDS,
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